

Ryan M. Yonk

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Department of Economics and Finance

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

August 2014-

Assistant Research Professor & Research Director
Institute of Political Economy, Department of
Economics and Finance, Utah State University.

August 2011-2014

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
and Criminal Justice, Southern Utah University

August 2010-12

Research Director-Center for Public Lands and
Rural Economics, Department of Economics,
Utah State University

August 2010-August 2011

Instructor, Department of Political Science,
Utah State University

NON-PROFIT POLICY POSITIONS

May 2012-

Founder, STRATA Policy

EDUCATION

PhD Political Science
Georgia State University
August 2011

M.S. Political Science (emphasis in Political Economy)
Utah State University, Logan, UT
Graduation: May 2008

PUBLICATIONS

Student Co-Authors in **Bold**

Academic Journal Articles

“Trading Places; Effects of voting systems on multicandidate elections”, (2011) (with Randy T Simmons and Derek Johnson) *Public Choice*, Volume 146, Numbers 3-4, 341-351, 2011.

“Bootleggers, Baptists and Political Entrepreneurs: Key Players in the Rational and Morality play of Regulatory Politics,” (2010) (with Randy Simmons and Diana Thomas) *The Independent Review*, Volume 15(3).

“Touchdowns, Home Runs and Slam Dunk; How local media coverage of athletics shapes parental perceptions of education” *Political Perspectives*, Volume 5, 2011.

“Citizen Involvement: Quality of Life in a time of Direct Democracy” (with Shauna Reilly) *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, March 2012

“In and out of the Commons- Extractive Public Entrepreneurship and the Aggie Blue Bikes Program” (with Diana Thomas and **Steve Young**) *The Journal of Public and Municipal Finance*, Spring 2012

“Who are the Patients? Exploring Approaches to Rural Hospital Market Area Determination” *Journal of Rural Business Management and Economics*, Vol 4(1) Jan 2013. (With Roberta Q. Herzberg Chris Fawson and **Christopher Martin**)

“Battlegrounds and Budgets; State-level Evidence of Budget Manipulation in Competitive Presidential Election States” *State and Local Government Review*. Vol 45 No. 2, June 2013 (With Daniel Franklin and Sean Richey)

“Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Goals at Public Institutions: The Case of a Land-Grant University” *British Journal of Management Economics and Trade*. Fall 2013 (With R. Christopher **Martin** and **Kayla Dawn Harris**)

“It Tax, You Tax” *Public Administration Research*. Vol2(2) November 2013.

“Politics, Economics, and Federal Land Designation: Assessing the Economic Impact of Land Protection—Grand Staircase -Escalante National Monument” *Mountain Plains Journal of Business and Economics*. Fall 2013 (With Randy T Simmons and Brian C. Steed)

“Extreme Vote Makeover: The Role of Ranked Choice Voting in the Oakland City Elections” *Journal of Politics and Law*. May 2014 (With Randy T Simmons and **Daniel Groberg**)

“Does Moderation Pay? Members of Congress, Campaign Donations and Voting Patterns” *Critical Issues in Justice and Politics*. May 2014 (With Brian Steed and **Rochdi Alloui**)

“Planning is Political- Except When It Isn’t: How Planning Commissions Decide” *The California Journal of Politics and Policy*. 2014. (With Randy T Simmons)

“The Empty Intersection: Why so little Public Choice in Political Science?” *Public Choice* July 2015 (With Randy T Simmons)

“Curricular and Programmatic Innovation at the Intersection of Business Ethics and Entrepreneurship”. *The Challenges of Ethics and Entrepreneurship in the Global Environment*. 2015 (With Christopher Fawson and Randy T Simmons)

“The Regulatory Noose: Logan City’s Adventures in Micro-Hydropower” *Energies*. June 2016. (With Randy T Simmons and **Megan Hansen**)

“Boon or Bust: Wilderness Designation and Local Economies” *Journal of Private Enterprise*. Fall 2016. (With Randy T. Simmons and Brian C. Steed)

“Political Party Impacts on Direct Democracy: The 2015 Greek Austerity Referendum” *Atlantic Economic Journal*. Forthcoming. (With William Shughart and **Megan Hansen**)

“Congressional Capitulation: War Power and the United States Congress” *Journal of Politics and Law*. Forthcoming.

Trade Journal Articles

“The Seen and Unseen of Energy Innovation: How Government Programs Discourage New Ideas” *Energy Today*. Forthcoming (With **Josh Smith**)

“Charting Unseen Costs of Electricity Generation” *Pipeline & Gas Journal*, Vol 243 No. 4. April 2016

Articles Under Review

Do US counties benefit from wilderness designation? Examining local government revenue and county expenditures” Submitted June 2016 to Journal of Land Use Policy (With Randy T Simmons, **Josh Smith**, and **Sarah Reale**)

Manufacturing Yellowstone. Submitted August 2016 to Journal of Range Management (With **Jordan Lofthouse**)

Analyzing the Role of Poor and Developing Nations in Global Climate Agreements. Submitted September 2016 to the Journal of Human Rights and the Environment. (With Landon Stevens and **Arthur Wardle**)

Bureaucratic Responses to Conflicting Mandates: The Case of the Elliot State Forest. Submitted October 2016 to Forest Policy and Economics. (With **Devin Stein** and Randy Simmons)

Exploring the Case of the White Moustache: Entrepreneurship and Regulatory Capture in the Milk Products Industry. Submitted October 2016 to Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy. (With **Kayla Harris**, **R. Christopher Martin** and **Barrett Anderson**)

Barriers to Participation: Factors Associated with the Choice of Presidential Selection Processes in the United States. Submitted October 2016 to Electoral Studies. (With Shauna Reilly, Brian Webb, and **Barrett Anderson**)

Disincentives to Business Development on the Navajo Nation. Submitted September 2016 to Journal of Business Venturing. (With **Devin Stein** and **Sierra Hoffer**)

Book Projects--Published

Green vs. Green: The Political, Legal, and Administrative Pitfalls Facing Green Energy Production. Routledge Press. Oct 2012

Direct Democracy in the United States: Petitioners as a Reflection of Society. Routledge Press. Oct 2012

Nature Unbound: Bureaucracy vs. The Environment. Independent Institute. March 2016

Book Projects—Under Contract

The Reality of American Energy: The Hidden Costs of Electricity Policy. Praeger Press. (With **Megan Hansen** and **Jordan Lofthouse**)

Book Proposals & Chapters Under Review—Under Review

Politics and Quality of Life Under Review at Springer Press June 2016.

Collaborative Contagion: A Case Study in Curriculum Development, Distribution, and Adoption. Submitted as Chapter in October 2016 to Higher Education

Building A Quality of Life Index. Submitted as Chapter in September 2016 to Well-Being and Quality of Life.

Policy Papers and Reports—Peer Reviewed

“Treasured Landscapes and Energy Resources” Published by the Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics, Utah State University, August 2011. With Randy T Simmons and Brian C. Steed. (Peer Reviewer Christopher Fawson PhD)

“Energy Regulation: Impacting traditional and green energy projects” Published by the Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics, August 2011. With Randy T. Simmons and Brian C. Steed. (Peer Reviewer—Christopher Fawson PhD)

“Utah Broadband Access” Published by the Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics, Jan 2012. With Randy T. Simmons. (Peer Reviewer—John Harvey PhD)

“The Economic Costs of Wilderness” Published by Pacific Research Institute, Summer 2011. With Brian C. Steed and Randy T. Simmons) (Peer Reviewer – Holly Fretwell PhD)

“The Role of Oil and Gas and Amenities in County Economic Development” Published by the American Petroleum Institute, August 2013. (With Randy Simmons, **Nick Hilton, Justine Larsen and Jordan Hunt**) (Peer Review—Blind)

“Equal Access to Justice Act” Published by Institute of Political Economy, 2014 (With Randy T Simmons and **Jordan Lofthouse**)(Peer Review—Blind)

“Options for the Monetization of the Elliot State Forest” Published by the Institute of Political Economy, 2014 (With Randy Simmons, **Jordan Lofthouse, and Adam Stewart**)

“Reliability of Renewable Energy” Published by the Institute of Political Economy, 2015 (With Randy Simmosna and **Jordan Lofthouse**) (Peer Review—Blind)

“Ethanol and the Renewable Fuel Standard” Published by the Institute of Political Economy, 2016 (With Landon Stevens and Randy T Simmons)(Peer Review—Blind)

“Renewable Portfolio Standard Series; Kansas, Ohio, North Carolina, Colorado, Michigan, Pennsylvania. 2015-2016 (With Tyler Brough, Randy Simmons and **Jacob Fishbeck**) (Peer Review—Blind)

Unseen Costs of Electricity Series: Wind, Solar, Coal and Natural Gas, 2016 (With Megan Hansen **and Randy Simmons**) (Peer Review—Blind)

Policy Papers and Reports

Published by The Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics, Utah State University Feb 2012. (With Randy T. Simmons and Brian C. Steed)

“Considering Privatization: State Parks, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and Department of Transportation” Published by The Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics, Utah State University 2011. (With Randy T Simmons and **Richard Criddle**)

“HB174: An analysis of eligibility privatization in Utah’s Medical Program” Published by the Institute of Political Economy. June 2012. (With Roberta Q. Herzberg.)

“Understanding the Economic Impacts of WildEarth Guardian Litigation” Published by the Institute of Political Economy. June 2012 (With Randy T Simmons and **Kayla Dawn Harris**)

“Renewable Energy Siting and Transmission Resource Requirements” Published by the Center for Public Land and Rural Economics, Utah State University May 2012 With Randy T. Simmons and **Kayla Dawn Harris**

“Rural Quality of Life: An Index” Published by the Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics Utah State University Spring 2010, with Randy T Simmons and Chris Fawson

“Public Lands and Rural Education” Published by The Center for Public Lands and Rural Economics Utah State University June 2009, with Randy T Simmons, Chris Fawson, and Roberta Q. Herzberg

“The Price of Government; in Cache Counties Cities and Towns” Published by Institute of Political Economy, Utah State University August 2008. With Randy T Simmons PhD

“Renewable Energy Primers” Published by the Institute of Political Economy Utah State University May 2013. With Randy T Simmons PhD

“The Price of Government in the State of Utah 2009. Published by the Institute of Political Economy Utah State University. With Randy T Simmons and **R. Christopher Martin**

“2010 Cost of Government Report. Published by the Utah Tax Payers Association University. With Randy T Simmons and **R. Christopher Martin**

“2011 Cost of Government Report. Published by the Utah Tax Payers Association University. With Randy T Simmons and **R. Christopher Martin**

“Costs of Land Administration in Utah” Utah Governors Office Fall 2012. With **Kayla Dawn Harris, Christopher Martin, Richard Criddle, Jordan Hunt and Braedan Udy.**

“Economic Impacts of Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance on Local Communities” Institute of Political Economy Utah State University and the Institute of Policy Analysis Southern Utah University. August 2013. With Randy T Simmons PhD, **Kayla Dawn Harris, and Megan Hansen**

WORKING PAPERS

“Public Trust and Public Choice: Understanding the Public Trust Doctrine a Public Choice World” (with Randy T Simmons) working paper

“The Impacts of the Renewable Fuel Standard on Local Communities” (With Randy Simmons and Landon Stevens) working Paper

“Exploring Impacts of the Surface Mine Reclamation and Control Act” (With **Arthur Wardle and Josh Smith**) working paper

“Tiny Houses, Zoning Regulation and Sustainability: How Zoning Regulations defeat a Sustainability Agenda” (With **Josh Smith**) working paper

“Voluntary Environmentalism: How a better cleaner future is possible with less regulation” (With **Jordan Lofthouse**) working book manuscript

“Understanding the Impacts of Renewable Portfolio Standards” (With Tyler Brough) working paper

“Why Let Planners Do What They Do?” (With Randy Simmons) working paper

Gender and Economic Freedom: Understanding the Impacts of Increased Economic Freedom on Women’s Earnings and Labor Force Participation” (With **Josh Smith and Melissa Funk**) working paper

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

Testimony to the Privatization Policy Board, “Privatization Report”. Spring 2011

Testimony to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, United States House of Representatives. “Payments in Lieu of Taxes” October 2011

Staff Training Session, Western Caucus US House of Representatives. October 2011

Testimony to Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee, Utah Legislature . “HB 174” Jan 2012

Testimony to the Native American Liaison Joint Committee, Utah Legislature, “Economic Development” August 2013

Testimony to the Kansas Legislature, “Renewable Portfolio Standards”, May 2015

Testimony to the Ohio Legislature, “Renewable Portfolio Standards”, July 2015

Testimony to the North Carolina Legislature, “Renewable Portfolio Standards”, September 2015

Testimony to the Joint Interim Committee on Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology, “Renewable Energy Tax Credit Programs” October 2016.

COURSES TAUGHT

Senior Research Seminar (POLS 4990), Utah State University, Spring 2008 (With Randy T Simmons).

Introduction to American Politics (POL 1101), Georgia State University, Spring 2010.

Connecting to Campus (USU 1000), Utah State University, Summer 2010

Social Systems and Issues (USU 1340), Utah State University, Fall 2010.

Introduction to Political Research (POLS 3000), Utah State University, Spring 2011.

U.S. Institutions (USU 1300), Utah State University, Spring 2011.

Public Administration and Ethics (PADM 6620), Southern Utah University, Fall 2011.

American Presidency: Executive Process (POLS 3110), Southern Utah University, Fall 2011.

American Political Thought (POLS 4110), Southern Utah University, Fall 2011.

Current Political Issues (POLS 3010), Southern Utah University, Spring 2012.

Research Design (CJ 3900), Southern Utah University, 2011-2014.

Public Budget & Finance (PADM 6200), Southern Utah University, 2011-2014.

Capstone in Public Administration (PADM 6990), Southern Utah University, 2011-2014.

Research Methods (POLS 3000), Utah State University, 2014

Law and Economics (ECN 3170), Utah State University 2014-Current

Global Issues (POLS 3100), Utah State University 2014-Current

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Co-Editor Special Issue of Political Perspectives Jan 2011.
Started a weekly political economy discussion group for faculty in the Economics and Political Science Departments at USU.
Editor, Critical Issues in Justice and Politics
Director Institute of Policy Analysis SUU
Research Fellow, Independent Institute
Research Director, Institute of Political Economy USU
Research Fellow, Heartland Institute

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Pi Sigma Alpha Advisor, National Political Science Honor Society, Chapter Advisor, August 2012-2014
Department Curriculum Committee
College Curriculum Committee
MPA Director Search Committee
Department Search Committees (Political Science and Criminal Justice)
Koch Student Fellows Faculty Advisor
Koch Scholars Advisor

THESES AND PROJECTS SUPERVISED

Amy Mciff Thesis “The Washington County Lands Bill”
Geoff Huseaus Thesis “Municipal Bond Decisions”
Holly Norton Thesis “Political Economy of NCAA Scholarships”
Shered Mullins Thesis “NEPA”
Lori Economy Professional Project “Employee Satisfaction and Measurement-DWS”
Heather Shober Professional Project “Financial Literacy and College Freshmen”
Derick Veater Professional Project “Juvenile Crime Rates in Southern Utah”
Megan Hansen Thesis “Greek Austerity Referendum”¹
Jordan Lofthouse “How Good Intentions Back re: Failures and Negative Consequences of Federal Environment Policies”²
Alecia Hunter “Value of a Statistical Life”³
Sierra Hoffer “Navajo Economic Development”⁴
Nicholas Hilton “Determinants of the Adoption of Minimum Wage Ordinances”⁵
Devin Stein “Wildfire Impacts”⁶

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISED 2013-Current

Josh Defrieze, Political ecology: A Public choice Analysis of Environmental Policy, 2013-4
Andrew Izatt, Militarization and the Future of American Policy, 2013-14
Joshua Bennion, Militarization and the Future of American Policy, 2013-14
Grant Patty, Does Occupational Licensing Affect Women?, 2013-14
Lindsey McBride, Does Occupational Licensing Affect Women? 2013-14
Adam Stewart, Lands and Lords: Public Land Management, 2013-14

¹ Committee Member

² Committee Member

³ Committee Member

⁴ Underway

⁵ Committee Member, Underway

⁶ Committee Member, Underway

Jordan Lofthouse, Federally Sanctioned Poverty Overcoming Barriers in Indian Country, 2013-14
 James Porter, Democratic Government and the Revolving Door, 2014-15
 Seth Muhlestein, Democratic Government and the Revolving Door, 2014-15
 Josh Smith, Democratic Government and the Revolving Door, 2014-15
 Abigail Herzberg, Uber Lyft and the Vehicle Sharing Economy, 2014-15
 Alan Henderson, Uber Lyft and the Vehicle Sharing Economy, 2014-15
 Grant Patty, Uber Lyft and the Vehicle Sharing Economy, 2014-15
 Alecia Hunter, Utah's Historic Districts and Discrimination, 2014-15
 Josh Shoemaker, Utah's Historic Districts and Discrimination, 2014-15
 Ruby Parkin, Utah's Historic Districts and Discrimination, 2014-15
 Kevin Duncan, Economic Freedom and Economic Recovery, 2014-15
 Jady Naylor, Economic Freedom and Economic Recovery, 2014-15
 Michael Jensen, Economic Freedom and Economic Recovery, 2014-15
 Ian Nemelka, Mandatory Minimums and Recidivism, 2014-15
 Garrett White, Mandatory Minimums and Recidivism, 2014-15
 Jordan Floyd, Mandatory Minimums and Recidivism, 2014-15
 Brian Isom, Crude Oil on Federal Lands, 2014-15
 Bracken Allen, Crude Oil on Federal Lands, 2014-15
 Josh Smith, Crude Oil on Federal Lands, 2014-15
 Devin Stein, Disincentives to Navajo Economic Development, 2014-15
 Sierra Hoffer, Disincentives to Navajo Economic Development, 2014-15
 Zachory Hopkins, Disincentives to Navajo Economic Development, 2014-15
 Lansing Sun, What factors affect student success?, 2014-15
 Brian Isom, Dammed if You Do: Solving Utah's Water Problem, 2015-16
 Jady Naylor, An Index of State Energy Regulations, 2015-16
 Jacob Caldwell, An Index of State Energy Regulations, 2015-16
 Michael Jensen, An Index of State Energy Regulations, 2015-16
 Brooke Lofthouse, Public Choice Leeve, 2015-16
 Josh Smith, Economic Freedom and Gender Equality, 2015-16
 Melissa Funk, Economic Freedom and Gender Equality, 2015-16
 Ryan Lee, The Nuclear Waste Policy Act's Impacts on the Energy Market, 2015-16
 Grant Patty, Private and Public Methods of Managing Water in Utah, 2015-16
 Brian Isom, Private and Public Methods of Managing Water in Utah, 2015-16
 Logan Hemmert, Ranked Choice Voting and Incumbency, 2016-17
 Camille Harmer, The Political Economy of Wildfire Suppression in the United States, 2016-17
 Arthur Wardle, The Impacts of SMCRA, 2016-17
 Jacob Caldwell, The Effect of Occupational Licensing on Minorities and Women in Utah, 2016-17
 Colton Cowan, The Effect of Occupational Licensing on Minorities and Women in Utah, 2016-17
 Olivia Makelprang, The Effect of Occupational Licensing on Minorities and Women in Utah, 2016-17
 Emily Orr, Student Development Models Efficacy and Implementation, 2016-17
 Boston Peine, Student Development Models Efficacy and Implementation, 2016-17
 Logan Hemmert, Student Development Models Efficacy and Implementation, 2016-17

Grant and Conference Presentation Information Available On Request.